

## Case Study on Khah Language

**M M Sohil**

Teacher,

School Education Department Government of Jammu & Kashmir.

**Article History:** Submitted-26/09/2020, Revised-17/10/2020, Accepted-19/10/2020, Published-31/10/2020.

### **Abstract:**

Language is the identity of the people and it shapes our society ideologically and culturally. It is the source of recognition and instrument of expression. This research has been taken to study this language in intensive and in-depth manner in order to provide an understanding of Khah language, its insights to developmental pathways, historical overviews, demography, migration and immigrant speakers, and its population expansion, speakers and areas of the language. The whole study will be confined to language origin, literature, language users, their areas and expansion, contacts with the other language speakers. Khah language literature is available in the form of poetry, folks songs, prose, translation, and historical books. It is spoken in districts like Ramban, Doda, Udhampur, Kishtwar, Rajouri, Reasi, Jammu, and Anantnag in the territory of Jammu and Kashmir. We have also migrant speakers settled in different parts of the country like, in Kathua, Srinagar, Delhi, and Mumbai. This language is an ancient language and it was the language of the Rajas. The language of Khasas or Khasha tribe who ruled the several regions of Himalaya and Kashmir in the ancient times which is mentioned in the Vedas, Epic Mahabharata, Puranas, Nilmata Purana, Rajatarangini and in other great historical books. It is understood that this language is as old as the ancient tribe Khasas. Attempt is made to examine the Khah language which is unknown and unexplored in this context to the readers.

**Keywords:** Khah Language, Society, Districts, Literature, Speakers, Identity, Khasas Tribe.

## **Introduction**

...The people of mentioned areas are predominantly speaking Khah language in the society... (Sohil, Khah as Rural Dialect, P 190-91)

It is obvious that the kingdoms of Khasha tribe were spread over the large hilly and mountainous areas of Peer Panchyal which includes Utrakand, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Nepal, and Indian Punjab and Punjab in Pakistan. Khasas or Khasha tribe was considered as the warriors and it is examined and studied by the scholars and historian that they were the ancient rulers of the Himalayan belts with the Kirates. The language of this tribe was Khashali or Khasha or modern Khah which has linguistics roots from Sanskrit language, Prakrit language and Persian language. Khashali or Khasha or modern Khah was spoken and is spoken over the areas which are connected with other language users who speak different, languages like Punjabi, Dogri, Hindi, Urdu, Kashmiri and Gujari languages. The closest native speakers are Kashmiri speakers, Urdu speakers, Gujari speakers, Dogri speakers and Punjabi speakers.

Khah language case study is taken to deal with all aspects of speakers in order to explore the length and breadth of the Khah language users, their expansion, contacts, multilingual and multicultural features. It is examined and analyzed in the context that this language is an ancient language and was spoken in and across the Chenab Valley which is located in the lap of Himalaya and this region has been ruled by Khasha tribe in the ancient times. It is understood by analyzing the historical data and by field trips or visiting the places that the present speakers of this language are in and outside the country. It is very unfortunate that this language is still unexplored and ignored.

## **Objectives of the Study**

- To find out the historical background of the Khah language.
- To explore the length and breadth of the Khah language speakers.
- To examine the multilingual and expansion of the language users.
- To verify the history of the Khasas or Khas or Khasha tribe in order to find the historical roots of Khah language.

## Etymological Study of Khah

The original word is Khas which means Raja or Kshatriya or Yoddha. The word is derived from the Sanskrit word Khasas or Khas which means Rajas or Rajput people or Warriors. According to the modern verbal historical witness the word Khasha means the Raja of the empty hilly land or the Rajas of the hilly and mountainous range spread from Kashmir Jawharlal Tunnel to Jammu and Kashmir POK, Himachal Pradesh, Uttrakand, Indian Punjab and Pakistani Punjab to Nepal. Another assumption is this that the word is the combination of two words “Kha and Shah” derived from Persian language (Khasha) Kha means Land and Shah means King so the King of the Land or Huge Land Owner or King of the empty space in hilly areas.

According to linguistics Britbiill and Turner in their linguistic survey titled *A Sociolinguistic Survey of the Dogri Language, Jammu and Kashmir* published in 2007 the Khasha language is the language of Khasas tribe which is spoken in the Peer Panchyal area of the region of Jammu and Kashmir.

In a book titled *Malla Nakwoon: Tanqeed Te Tehqeeq* by Professor Shad in Kashmiri language used Khah Shah which means Raja of the hilly land and his language is known as Khah Boi:l, he states that it is an ancient language of Khasha people and this name is used for the language spoken in and across the Chenab Valley Jammu and Kashmir since the ages. According to Naike Mohammad Iqbal that Khah language is an ancient language of Khasha tribe and the same assumption has been stated by Ismail Aseri in his book *Tareek Pogal Paristan* and Manshoor Banihali in *Banihal Gateway of Kashmir*. According to the local people and their ancient oral and verbal historical sources Khah means Raja or the people who are Rajputs and whose language is Khasha modern Khah. Some people are of the opinion that the people who live on the hilly areas and are using plough to sow the maize seed in hilly areas are called Khah Luk (Khasha People). Khah means a farmer (also called an agriculturer) is a person engaged in agriculture. Some people believed that these people use Khashali language. We can understand that the word Khah means people live in hilly areas of the Himalayan regions. According to the ancient source of history this language was named as Khasha or Khasali or Khah which means Rajput people. It was stated that the people living in this area were

Hindu and Muslim but both were Rajputs and they were called as Khasha. By analyzing the historical records it can be understood that the area was occupied by the Hindu and Muslim Rajputs and their language was Khashali or Khahsha or in modern times Khah they were ruling since the ages of Mahabharata to Mughal mentioned in the different historical books, like Nilmat Puranas, Rajatarangini and in other books etc.

### **Historical Perspectives and an Overview on Khah Language**

Sometime in the 3rd millennium BC, peoples known as the Aryans began migrating from Central Asia into India, and eventually spread across all of North India from Pakistan to Bengal. One Aryan group called the Khashas settled in the mountain region between Kashmir and Nepal. The Khashas spoke an Old Indo-Aryan language related to Sanskrit. (Britbill & Turner, P 7)

Khasha or Khah language is an Indo Aryan Language which is related to Sanskrit, Prakrit and Persian and is very similar to Kashmiri and Urdu. It was spoken by the Kashtariya and Yoddhas (Warriors) or Kush or Khasha who were also ruled as Kings and their language was Khasha “modern Khah”. According to Britbill and Turner that Khasha tribe used Khasha language and in an article: *The Region of Kashmir in Ancient Literature with Special Mention to Tribes* by Mega Sharma where she describes Khasha tribe as an ancient tribe who were known as warriors and Rajputs who were not as Bramins. They speak Khasha language and ruled from Nepal to Kashmir. These scholars are of the opinion that all Pahari languages have many commonalities with Khasha language. Brightbill and turner state that roots and features of Khasha language are found in all the Pahari languages spoken in Jammu and Kashmir. So it is clearly understood that this language is the ancient language and was language of the early inhabitants of the Himalayan tribe known as Kashteriyas or Khashas.

Bailey has stated that Kai;thali is the language of the Khasas tribe and he has described that this is an Indo Aryan language and its speakers had migrated from central Asian to India and are known as Aryans. In *Survey of Indian Languages* by Gerieson, the linguist has clearly mentioned that the language of Khasha tribe is more akin to the

language of Kashmiri, Sanskrit and Persian, today it can be understood that the Khasa language was spoken with ancient languages like Sanskrit, Prakrit, and Persian but it was unexplored and was not known to the scholars and literate people. This fact can be analyzed by the oral history of the people of these areas. The verbal and oral history or mythology of the Khasas tribe reveals that Khasa language is as old as these languages Sanskrit, Prakrit, and Persian are. Grierson has examined that the language of the Khasas tribe is an Indo Aryan language known as Khasa language. So it can be verified by the morphological study that the Khasa or modern Khah language is mixed with Kashmiri, Urdu, Dogri, and Punjabi. According to Turin and Leiden Khasa language is an ancient language of the Khasas tribe mentioned by them in *Himalayan Languages and Linguistics: Studies in Phonology, Semantics, Morphology and Syntax* edited by Mark Turin and Bettina Zeisler Leiden.

Phonetics and Phonological System of Khasa Language “*Pogali Zubaan Ka Sotyatey Nizaam*” by Mohd Iqbal published in 2005 in Urdu language. This book is the first book on the phonetics system of Khah language. The author has mentioned in the book that the old name of this language is Khasaha or Khah. It was the language of the people who ruled this region which is known as Chenab Valley at present and also ruled over Kashmir during the ancient times. Khasa people ruled this Himalayan region before Muslim and Britishers rulers came to India. *Pogali Zubaan Ka Sotyatey Nizaam* by Iqbal Naik has described that Khah language is an ancient language of the Khasa tribe who ruled this region over the period of time.

*Pholwan Goash* 2008 by Ghulam Abass Masroor. Masroor was a teacher and he has written this book in Khasa or modern Khah language and in this book he has mentioned that the name of this language is Khasa as an ancient language. This book contained the collection of poems and 48 prose works by Masroor. Masroor has also highlighted the documentary work and steps for the development of Khasa language during the end of twentieth century and the first phase of enlightenment work on this language in the twentieth first century.

*Linguistic Survey on Kashmiri Dialects Part 11* published in 2012 conducted by Kashmir University on Khah language highlighted that the Khah language is spoken in

district Ramban Jammu and Kashmir. This language find mention in another article named “*A Note on Khah Morphological*” by Nazir Ahmed Dhar published in 2013. Dhar Nazir is a linguist serving in the department of Linguistic University of Kashmir has described the morphological comparison between Khah and Kashmiri language.

*Banihal Gateway of Kashmir* by Manshoor Banihali written in Urdu language in which the author has described that the old name of this language is Khah which was spoken by Khasha tribe who were rulers in this region during ancient times. In this book the author has described the Khasha tribe and the name of their language as Khah.

*The region of Kashmir in Ancient Literature with special mention to Tribes* by Megha Sharma published in Pramana Research Journal 2019 clearly stated that this Khasha tribe ruled the Peer Panchyal region since ancient times and their language is an ancient language spoken by them in this region. Khasha language was spoken since the ages before Mogul and Britishers came to India. *Molla Nakwoon (Tanqeed Te Tahqeeq)* written by Professor Shad. This book is written in Kashmiri language which contains chapters on the research and criticism. The author has mentioned in his research that the name of the language is Khah which is spoken in Peer Panchal areas and it has long historical background since the ages. Professor Shad has written that the ancient name of the language is Khah which is spoken in the areas. The author has mentioned that the word Khah means Rajput which is commonly known among the people of these areas.

*History of Pogal Paristan* by Ismail Aseri written in Urdu language published in 2014 is first book published on the history of Pogal Paristan. The book also highlights the Kingdoms of Khasha tribe and their language Khah. It is categorically stated by the author about the King Bhagika was the last king of the Khasas tribe in the Chenab Valley Jammu and Kashmir. Khasha people were first settled in this area. The author has mentioned that the Khasha people were warriors who had fought various wars occupied the vast areas of the South Asian continent. Sohil Mohd Muzamil in one of his article titled *Original and Inherent Name of a Kashmiri Dialect* 2017 mentioned that the original and ancient name of this language is the Khah and he has described it as rural dialect spoken in rural areas in the Chenab Valley of Jammu and Kashmir. In “*Khah as Rural Dialect Spoken in Chenab Valley*” he has examined that this language is spoken in the

rural areas of the Chenab Valley. Sohil in another article named *Usage of Verb in Khah Dialect* has defined the main verb and its types in Khah language.

In a magazine published by Government higher secondary Neel in which author Shakeel Sohil has described Khah Rasmul Khat. This magazine was published in 2018. In this he has analyzed the basic alphabets of Khah language. Sohil Shakeel has described the history and expansion of Khah language speakers in his article *The History of Panchali (Poguli/Khah) Language and Its Areas* and moreover he has also discussed the phonetic and phonology of the Khah language in *Phonological Study of the Panchali (Poguli/Khah) Language*.

### **Khah Language Literature**

All of the Pahari languages share many common grammatical features and lexical items. Some of these commonalities may come from the Khasa language, which was spoken by the earlier inhabitants of the region. (Britbill & Turner, P 9)

Language cannot survive unless and until its speakers speak it and it cannot die unless and until every single of its user die. Khah or Khasa literature is present in different forms like: verbal literature, folklore and folk literature, poetry, historical books, and other local printed materials. Vedas can be cited as the source of history of Khasas or Khasa or Khasa then Puranas in which Khasas or Khasa tribe is mentioned but their language is unexplored and it was spoken along with Bramu Basha, Sanskrit, Prakrati, Persian, and Kashmiri. It can be examined by analyzing the root words of all these languages and apart from this source we have myths, fables, autobiographies and fantasies and other historical sources. We have published literature in different forms of this language highlighted in the followings:

Ancient Historical Books where this tribe and their language is mentioned in.

- Riga Vedas
- Puranas
- Mahabharata

## Case Study on Khah Language

- Nilmata Puranas
- Rajatarangini
- Culture and Political History of Kashmir
- Ancient Communities of the Himalaya

## Some books on Khah language

- Grame Bailey,
- *Survey of Indian Languages* by Gerieson
- The Linguistic Classification of Kashmiri. *Antiquary*
- Linguistic Survey on Kashmiri Dialects Part 11
- *Himalayan Languages and Linguistics: Studies in Phonology, Semantics, Morphology and Syntax.*
- *A Note on Khah Morphological.*
- Aspects of Kashmiri Linguistics by Koul
- *A Sociolinguistic Survey of the Dogri Language, Jammu and Kashmir.*
- *Mallo Nakwoon Tanqeed Te Tehqeek* by Prof Shad
- Education and Cultural Diversity of Tribal Population in Himachal Pradesh, India by Kumar and Manohar
- The Region of Kashmir in Ancient Literature with Special Mention to Tribes

## Books on Khah language by local writers

- *Phulhaar* by Naik Hussain
- *Phonetic and Phonological System of Khah Language (Pogali Zubaan Ka Sutiyaati Nizaam)*
- *Phulwan Goosh* by Masroor Ghalum Abass
- *Tareek Neel* by Sohil Ghalum Mohd
- *Gulistan Neel* by Bulbul Latief

## Research Articles by Sohil Mohd Muzamil

- ✓ Original and Inherent Name of a Kashmiri Dialect
- ✓ Khah as A Rural Dialect Spoken in Chaneb Valley



✓ Usage of Verb in Khah Dialect

Research Articles by Sohil Shakeel

- ✓ *The History of Panchali (Poguli/Khah) Language and Its Areas*
- ✓ Influence of Persian on Panchali (Poguli/Khah) Language
- ✓ *Phonological Study of the Panchali (Poguli/Khah) Language*
- ✓ Sanskrit Elements in Panchali (Pguli/Khah) Language
- ✓ Rasmul Khaat (The Alphabets of Khah Language)

Apart from above mentioned literature it has some folklores, prose works, poetic work, and folksongs. Khah language has different form of literature but it is enexpolred and ignored so far in this context. We have poets and singers like Hussain Naik, Sohil Ghulam Mohd, Naik Iqbal, Ameen Banihal singer and poet, Farooq Nadim and Abdul Majeed singer, some young new generation poets are Bali Neel, Mushtaq Neelvi, Ameen Madanhally, Sharief Sheria, M M Sohil, Rahi Shakeel, Sharief Malik, Bulbul Neel, Ghalum Nabi Bulbul Khari, Hamraz Shahbaz, Raja Hussain Sohil, Mousf Khari, G.M Bali, Hashmatullah etc. There are other forms of literature available in Khah language which is required to collect and explore for example we have translations works, prose works, Khah folksongs, Khah folklores, Khah stories, and Khah myths, since the tribe migrated from central Asian to India.

**Khasha or Khah as Mother Tongue**

The most frequent language spoken by the people of this area is Khah which is the mother tongue of the people of tehsil Banihal, tehsil Khari and tehsil Ukerhal. (Sohil, P 375)

Khah is the mother tongue of the Khasha people living in and across the Chenab Valley. Punjabi, Urdu, and Kashmiri languages are also used as mother tongue by Khasha people. It seems that the Khasha tribe is multilingual and multicultural. Khah language is used as mother tongue by the people resides in districts, Ramban, Doda, Kistawar, Rajouri, Reasi, Udhampure, Jammu, Kulgam, Anantnag and Srinagar but these speakers

are migrants. Khah language speakers have migrated to different districts of the territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Khah speakers are spread in different cities of the country Like Mumbai, Delhi, J&K and are presently working in various countries for different purposes as well. The intellectuality, intelligibility and comprehension level of the people is that they can use multiply languages within the same society. It is richness and uniqueness of culture and tradition of this language speaker.

### **Diglots verse Polyglots**

People residing in these areas have different cultures and languages, they speak more than one language for example Kashmiri speaker can talk also in Urdu, Bhaderwahi, Kistawari, Khah, Seeraji, Dogri or can speak Gujjari or Pahari dialect spoken in the area. (Sohil, M M. English Metalinguistical, P 375)

Diglots verses Polyglots Khah language users are above all, they are diglots and polyglots which means Khasha people use more than two to three languages at a time and can understand more languages at any point of time. They use different languages and it is their unique talent and ability to communicate with Kashmiri language users, Urdu language users, Dogri language users, Punjabi language users, Gujjari language users, Bhaderwahi language users, Hindi language users, and other native and non native languages as well. The literate people can write more than two languages they can write Urdu, English, Hindi, and their mother tongue.

### **Geography and Demography of Khah Language Users**

Khah speaking people have also settled in Mumbai, Delhi, Bhopal, Chandigarh and Uttar Pardesh. Besides Khah speaking people have migrated to Soudi Arabia, Pakistan, England and USA also... The main town of Banihal, Ramsoo, Khari, Ukherhal and Ramban are permanently inhabited by Khah speaking families... (Sohil Shakeel, The History of Panchali (Poguli/Khah) Language and Its Areas, PP 475)

It is obvious that the kingdoms of Khasha tribe were spread over the large hilly and mountainous areas of Peer Panchyal which includes Uttrakand, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu, Kashmir, Nepal and Punjab in Pakistan. Khasha tribe is an ancient tribe living in Asian Continent mentioned in the Rigveda, Puranas, Nilmata Purana, Rajatarangini and in other historical books.

Khah language is presently spoken in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and is spoken in more than nine districts like Ramban, Doda, Udhampur, Jammu, Kishtawar, Reasi, Rajouri, Anantnag, Kulgam and Srinagar. It is used as mother tongue by more than two lakhs people around the country. Beyond all the above it is used in other districts of the territory and by other language speakers as well.

Khah language speakers have migrated to different cities of the country like Srinagar, Anantnag Kashmir, Jammu, Udhampur, Mumbai, and Delhi. Culturally Khah language speakers are very rich and unique. They possess very rich culture heritage and mores. This study is intended to verify the demography and geography picture of Khah language speakers throughout the country. We have number of districts where this language is used as mother tongue or the speakers have migrated from one area to another area of the Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

### **Diachronic Study of Khah Language**

...Then he created a language fit for the mlecchas, unfavorable to the Vedas. He named it as brahmi-bhasha, or brahmi language,...(Bhavishya Purana, 480)

It is verified by the researchers that this language was spoken along with Sanskrit, Prakrit and Persian. Some scholars are of the opinion that this language is closely related to the Sanskrit and today researchers have verified by analyzing linguistics roots and the data that this language is very akin to the Sanskrit, Persian, and Kashmiri. Grame Bailey had used different words with regards of this language Kaithali, or Kot Kio and some linguistics have used Khasha, Kamoun or Khashali. When we study and analyses the lexical and morphemes and do field visit it seems that this language has close relation with all above mentioned languages.

It is clearly understood that there was an ancient tribe named Khasas or Khasha they were called Kashtariya and Yoddha during the Vedic period and later on during the Mongol rule they became Khasha and their language Khashali or Khasha now in modern days it is Khah, and some used as Kha Sha which means Land and King literally King of the land or King of the empty hilly area.

This is to study that the language changes over the period of time, from ancient to middle, and from middle to modern times. The change taken place during the ancient times and the changes occurred during the middle period and the position of the modern times. It was Khasas in the ancient history as per the sources of the Vedas, Puranas, and the Mahabharata. Khasas was the tribe who helped the Caurnavas in the Kurukshatra we have traced the history of Khasas tribe from the Mahabharata; they turned into Khas and Khashas people in the middle period call them Khasha but now in the modern Khasha into Khah which is commonly used by the people. So, we have words: Khasas, Kashtariya, Khas, Khasia, Khasa, Kush, Khasha and Khah.

### **Khah Language and Multilingual Perspectives**

In all these areas Khah is used as main language and the interesting fact is that the speakers of other languages are using this language too. (Sohil, Khah As Rural Dialect, 2016, P 190)

One of the most important and intrinsic valuable factors among the speakers of this language is that they are multilingual and can speak fluently any local and some non-local languages of the area. Along with multilingualism features the people are also multicultural having rich intelligibility and comprehension capacity to grasp any language and culture.

Khah language users are migrant and immigrant and are also outside the country for different purposes. They have commercial, business, educational, and other foreign relationship so they can speak Urdu, Hindi, English, Punjabi, Dogri, Gujjari, Kashmiri, and other language like Bhadarwahi, Serazi, Kistawari, etc.

Kashmiri, most of the words have same meaning and pronunciation pattern in Khah with Kashmiri language. Dogri speakers are residing in areas where Khah language is spoken and there we find some words entered into Khah morphology. Punjabi is still spoken by the Khah language users, they use Khah as mother tongue or Panjabi as mother tongue. We can say that both languages are used as mother tongue in tehsil Ramsu district Ramban Jammu and Kashmir. Urdu morphological influence can also be noticed in the Khah but every speaker of the Khah language use Urdu with family, friends, relatives, and in the schools. Urdu language is official language of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir we find there are people who use Urdu as mother tongue in Jammu division.

Khah language speakers are using Punjabi as mother tongue, Urdu as mother tongue, Kashmiri as mother tongue, and Khah is mother tongue. The people who have migrated from one place to another place of the territory and to different parts of the country use Khah as mother tongue. One of the unique features of the Khah language speakers is multilingualism and multicultural and their cultural heritage is very rich and powerful in the sense that they can adjust and indulge with any sort of environment within short span of time.

### **Khah as the Name of the Village**

Khah is a Village in Tehsil Budhal Rajouri. This village is the historical village of the Khasas or Khasha King or a tribe. Khah village is located in district Rajouri Khah is a large village in tehsil Budhal district Rajouri in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. The population of this village is 3831 souls as per the census of 2011. The total families are 790.

An essay written in Urdu by Amer Mohammad Shamsi in a local newspaper named *Kashmiruzma* the title of the essay is *Rajouri Ka Shahameri Khandaan: Tarik Ke Awraak Ma Keya Keya Rakan Keyai* (The Family of Shameri: What has Established in the Pages of History) published in 10 April 2019. In this essay Shamsi has mentioned that the King ruled over Kashmir. He has discussed that Khasha tribe had ruled over Kashmir

over 214 years and they had been ruling since the ages in these regions like Punjab, Utterakund, Hamachal, Rajouri, Ramban, Banihal, Kistawar, and Doda.

### **Khah as Name Caste**

Khah Caste is found in both the communities Hindu and Muslim. Khah and Khasha castes are also found in the state of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir in Indian and Khah caste is also in Pakistan. Therefore, it can be understood that the Khasha people have ancient history in the Indian Subcontinent. In this study it is examined that Khah caste is found in Tehsil Khari of district Ramban of Jammu and Kashmir. Khah and Khasha both are the same root words and are used as caste among Khasha people resides in the Indian Subcontinent. Khah is written as caste in tehsil Khari district Ramban and also in Jammu and Kashmir. There is a village whose people belong to Khah caste in district Ramban and people of Khah caste are also in Kashmir.

### **Dialects of Khah Language**

The students have different mother tongues and are using languages like Pahari, Urdu, Kashmiri, Khah, Gujjari, Dogri, Hindi, English etc. (Sohil, English, Metalinguistic Issues, P 374)

Khah language has more than three dialects original Khah, Zundhari, Neeravi, Rambani, and Serazi. We have Kashmiri inflectional verity, Urdu inflectional verity, Dogri inflectional verity, Punjabi inflectional verity and derivational roots from Sanskrit, Prakrit and Persian. It is understood that the intelligibility and comprehension of the Khasha or Khah language speaker is obvious and evident to understand the languages like Urdu, Hindi, Kashmiri, Punjabi, Dogri, Bhaderwahi, Kistawari, Gujari, and other local dialects of this area.

### **Common Communicational Language (Phatic Communion)**

Phatic communion is the language which is being used for communicating with friends, relatives, and in the offices with colleagues, subordinates and with officers. Urdu

is used as the main language of communication it is because of the fact that this language is the official language of Jammu and Kashmir. In the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir people use Urdu as the main language for communication. We can understand the social contacts of the different language users compel the speakers to use the familiar language of the environment so Khah language users prefer to use Urdu language with the friends, relatives and with other relations outside the locality. People maintain their social friendly contacts in Urdu language and mostly use Urdu in everyday life with social chit chat and other family relations.

### **Perception about Khashali, Khasha or Modern Khah Language**

One Aryan group called the Khashas settled in the mountain region between Kashmir and Nepal. The Khashas spoke an Old Indo-Aryan language related to Sanskrit... (Britbill & Turner, P 7)

It is explored that the tribe Khasas or Khasha was an ancient tribe and it is examined that Khasha or Modern Khah was their language. Language is meant for communication, expression and conveying things so it is called sources of communication. Language is the identity of people, tribe or clan of the definite place or region. The word Khah is used by most of the Kashmiri language speakers to name Khasha language speakers and Gujari language speakers used the word Khas to name the Thakur or Hindu Rajput community and also use the word Keeri for the Muslim Rajput people. The Khasas tribe or Khas or Khasha or Kashtriyas people were tribal people living over Himalayan hilly areas with the Kirates another tribe mentioned in the Mahabharata. These were two tribes who ruled the most important mountainous and hilly areas of the Himalaya which includes the regions and the states like Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttrakund and the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir and Some important parts of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir in Pakistan. By analyzing the history of these tribes we can understand that the language of Khasas or Khas or Khasha and Kirates was Khasha now in the modern times Khah language in the public use. Therefore such long reigning kingdoms and huge range of mountainous and hilly dialectical varieties from region to region, ranging from Himachal, Uttrakund, Punjab to Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab in Pakistan and the contacts with other tribes of the different Kingdoms we have

Manavas, Picasca and Nagas etc. it is obvious and evident that history on records and the historical facts today that Khasha is the language of more than two lakhs population. We have various languages and dialects spoken in all these areas like Khasha, or Khah, Khashali, Zundhari, Neeravi, Rambani, and Serazi. But the umbrella term for all these dialects is Khasha or modern Khah language because of the ancestral and original inhabitants of the areas and the real owners of Indian Subcontinent. Khasha or Khah has varieties with regards of of Khah, Zundhari, Neeravi, Serazi, and Khashali based on Phonology, Morphology, Syntax, and the Style of the language speakers.

### **Research Methodology**

In this case study primary and secondary data regarding the tribe and language have been collected and analyzed. After collection of data the researcher did field visit in order to find out the root words and ground realities about the Khasha or modern Khah language. It is very interesting to know that some ancient historical data reigning from Vedas, Puranas, to Nilmata Puranas, Rajataragini to the present day about the Khasha tribe and their language have been examined and studied for this case study. Apart from field visits and people participation historical books, research papers, articles, and newspapers have been analyzed in order to come to conclude this case study on Khah language.

### **Conclusion**

In the conclusion we can say that this language is an ancient tribal language of the people who were Kings, warriors, and Yoddhas since the ages. This language requires exploring and researching perspectives and parameters in order to explore the deep linguistics roots and links with history and other rich languages of the Indian Subcontinent. The study provides the key insights about the Khasha or modern Khah language its etymological meaning, historical perspectives, Khah as mother tongue, literature of Khah language and multilingual and multicultural aspects of the people. We can say that this language is an ancient language of the kings and warriors who lived and ruled over Himalayan range of mountains and Peer Panchyal area in ancient times mentioned in various analyzed data and resources. This is understood that Khah language



is unexplored and still it requires lot of research and exploration in order to analyze the ancient historical data and other language resources. The Khah language speakers are mainly inhabitants of the Chenab Valley and their population is spread in and across the Chenab Valley of Jammu and Kashmir. Now the speakers have migrated to different districts of the territory of Jammu and Kashmir and in some big cities of the country.

### **Works Cited:**

- A Linguistic Survey of Kashmiri Dialects Part-II*. Director Central Institution of Indian Languages, Manasagangotri, Mysore, 2012.
- Brightbill, Jeremy D. Turner, Scott D. *A Sociolinguistic Survey of the Dogri Language, Jammu and Kashmir*. SIL International, 2007.
- Dhar, Nazir. A. A Note on Khah Morphology. *Interdisciplinary Journal of Linguistic*, Volume, 6, PP, 11-124, 2013.
- Grierson, George Abraham. *Linguistic Survey of India*. Volume 8 Part 2, Limp Press, 1968.
- Grierson, George Abraham. The Linguistic Classification of Kashmiri. *Antiquary*. Volume 4, Issue 4, pp. 257-270, 2015.
- Hill, Nathan. W. *Himalayan Languages and Linguistics: Studies in Phonology, Semantics, Morphology and Syntax*, Edited by Mark Turin and Bettina Zeisler Leiden: Brill, *Book Review*, 2011.
- Koul, Omkar Nath and Peter Edwin Hook. *Aspects of Kashmiri Linguistics*. Bahri Publications, 1984.
- Koul, Omkar Nath and R. L. Schimdt. *Dardistan Revisited*, India, 1984.
- Kumar, Rakesh and Manohar, Kamal. Education and Cultural Diversity of Tribal Population in Himachal Pradesh, India. *International Journal on Arts, Management and Humanities*, 2(1): 07-10(2013) ISSN No. (Online): 2319 –5231, 2013.

Naik, Mohd Iqbal. *Pogali Zubaan Ka Sutyaaati Nizaam*. Makaf Printers, Delhi India, 2005.

Sharma, Megha. The Region of Kashmir in Ancient Literature with Special Mention to Tribes. *Pramana Research Journal, Volume 9, Issue 6*, PP 703-707, 2019.

Sohil, M. M. English, Metalinguistic Issues: A Study of Rural Primary Schools. *The Criterion: An International Journal in English*, Vol. II & Issue II, P 374-383, 2020.

Sohil, Mohd Muzamil. Khah as a Rural Dialect Spoken in Chenab Valley. *Shabd Bhram, An International Journal of Indian Languages*, Volume, Issue, PP, 190-191, 2016.

Sohil, Mohd Muzamil. Original and Inherent Name of Kashmiri Dialect. *Literary Herald*. Volume 2, Issue 4, PP. 374-377, 2017.

Sohil, Mohd Muzamil. Usage of Verbs in Khah Dialect: A Comparative Study. *The Creative Launcher: An International, Open Access, Peer Reviewed, Refereed, E-Journal in English*, Vol. II & Issue III, PP 310-316, 2017.

Sohil, Shakeel Ahmed. The History of Panchali (Poguli/Khah) Language and Its Areas. *The Creative Launcher*, Volume, 2 Issue, 4, PP, 471-478, 2017.

Sohil, Shakeel Ahmed. Influence of Persian on Panchali (Poguli/Khah) Language. *Literary Herald*, Volume 3, Issue 3, PP 115-138, 2017.

Sohil, Shakel Ahmed. Sanskrit Elements in Panchali (Pguli/Khah) Language. *Language in India*, Volume 17, Issue 11, PP, 293-312, 2017.

The Puranas: A Compact English Version of the Major 18 Puranas in one Document, Compiled by the Dharmic Scriptures Team, India, 2002.